

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 10-12, 15 and 21 have been amended. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 12 can be found at page 6, line 19 – page 7, line 6. The remaining amendments are editorial in nature and are fully supported in the specification and claims as originally filed.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

§ 112 Rejections

Claims 2-4, 8, 10, 11, 15, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants have amended claims 2, 4, 10, and 11 to more clearly define the present invention by adding the word “further” before the word “comprising” as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner also suggested adding the word “further” before the word “comprising” in claim 3. Applicants respectfully submit that the word “comprising” does not appear in claim 3, therefore claim 3 has not been amended as suggested. Applicants further submit that claim 3, as originally presented, particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Applicants have amended claims 8 and 15 to more clearly define the present invention by using the word “mixtures” in place of the word “combinations” as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner asserted that, in claim 21 the usage “comprises a material selected from” is inconsistent in utilizing an open end term followed by a Markush grouping. Applicants have amended claim 21 accordingly.

These amendments are not intended to, and do not limit the original scope of the claims. In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 2-4, 8, 10, 11, 15, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been overcome, and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Allowance of claims 1-22, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

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Date

Respectfully submitted

By: Scott R. Pribnow
Scott R. Pribnow Reg. No. 43,869
Telephone No.: (651) 736-3512

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833